

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIA-06  
AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05  
/094 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER:LL

APPROVED BY IO:GHELMAN

HA:RMMAXIM (DRAFT)

IO/ML:WKRIEBEL (DRAFT)

NEA/EGY:KHONAN (DRAFT)

IO/HR:RTAUBENFELD (DRAFT)

NEA/INS:ATHIBAUT (DRAFT)

AF/W:PCHAVES (DRAFT)

NEA/AFN:IBISHOP (DRAFT)

IO/UCS:CCOLLOTON (DRAFT)

IO/UNESCO:RCHEATER

IO/UNA:CGRICE (DRAFT)

EA/TIMBS:DSULLIVAN (DRAFT)

-----025949 282310Z /66

P R 282154Z DEC 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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NESCO

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO WORKING PARTY ON STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS  
PROCEDURES, PARIS, JANUARY 9-21, 1978

1. ACTION EMBASSIES (EXCEPT JAKARTA--SEE PARA 8 BELOW)  
ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OF-  
FICIALS ASAP TO STRESS THE NEED FOR THE UNESCO WORKING  
PARTY (WP) TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS AT THE JANUARY  
MEETING TO REACH AGREEMENT ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
CODIFYING AND STRENGTHENING UNESCO PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING  
COMPLAINTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

2. ACTION POSTS ARE MEMBERS OF WP, CONSISTING OF 12 MEMBERS  
OF UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD, CHAIRED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD  
CHAIRMAN MARTIN (UK). (OTHER MEMBERS ARE INFO POSTS,  
EXCEPT FRANCE, PLUS UGANDA). CONSTITUTED BY THE BOARD LAST  
MAY, WP IS CHARGED WITH MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS OF  
CODIFYING AND STRENGTHENING UNESCO'S PRESENT INFORMAL  
PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLA-  
TIONS IN AREAS OF UNESCO'S COMPETENCE (EDUCATION, SOCIAL  
AND NATURAL SCIENCES, CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS). NUMBER  
OF COMPLAINTS HAS BEEN STEADILY RISING IN RECENT YEARS AND  
IS EXPECTED TO SOON REACH SEVERAL HUNDRED PER YEAR, MAKING  
UNESCO ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UN  
SYSTEM IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS. BOARD HAS INSTRUCTED  
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WP TO SUBMIT "FINAL REPORT" ON ITS STUDY OF UNESCO'S HUMAN  
RIGHTS PROCEDURES FOLLOWING JANUARY SEMINAR.

3. WP MET IN AUGUST AND OCTOBER, BUT SOVIET AND POLISH  
OBSTRUCTIONISM AND INSISTENCE ON CONSENSUS HAVE THUS FAR  
SUCCEEDED IN BLOCKING ANY PROGRESS AND HAVE PREVENTED WP  
FROM ACCOMPLISHING EVEN MINIMAL GOAL OF CODIFYING EXIST-  
ING PROCEDURES. HOWEVER, OTHER WP MEMBERS ARE GROWING  
INCREASINGLY IMPATIENT AND CRITICAL OF SOVIET TACTICS.  
THIS CHANGING CLIMATE ENCOURAGES US TO HOPE THAT JANUARY  
SESSION WILL AGREE ON ACCEPTANCE OF "MAJORITY" DECISIONS  
RATHER THAN CONSENSUS, THEREBY DENYING SOVIETS EFFECTIVE  
VETO.

4. FYI: REPRESENTATIVES OF ACTION POST HOST GOVERNMENTS  
VARY CONSIDERABLY IN THEIR EXPERTISE AND EFFECTIVENESS.  
FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL AND HAVE REACTED  
ESPECIALLY NEGATIVELY TO THE SOVIETS' SPOILER ROLE:  
CHAMES ELDINE EL-WAKIL (EGYPT), REGINALD AGIOBU-KEMMER  
(NIGERIA) AND SERVEPALLI GOPAL (INDIA). GOPAL, IN  
PARTICULAR, HAS BEEN VERY INFLUENTIAL AND SUPPORTIVE OF  
WESTERN GOALS. AGIOBU-KEMMER PROBABLY HAS POTENTIAL FOR

EXERTING MOST INFLUENCE OF ALL. BY CONTRAST, SJARIF THAJEB (INDONESIA) HAS BEEN ILL-PREPARED AND APPEARS TO BE UNINSTRUCTED; MAHMOUD MESSADI (TUNISIA) AND ARTURO USLAR-PIETRI (VENEZUELA) HAVE REMAINED IN BACKGROUND AND PLAYED WEAK ROLE. ALL THREE MIGHT BENEFIT FROM DISCREET PRODDING BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS. END FYI.

5. IN APPROACHES TO HOST GOVERNMENTS ACTION ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) EXPRESS APPRECIATION, AS APPROPRIATE, FOR THEIR BOARD MEMBERS' EFFORTS ON WP;

(B) STRESS INADEQUACY OF EXISTING, INFORMAL PROCEDURES, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH DO NOT PROVIDE EFFECTIVE DUE PROCESS PROTECTION FOR EITHER MEMBER STATES COMPLAINED AGAINST OR COMPLAINANTS;

(C) EMPHASIZE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE OF JANUARY MEETING WHICH MUST PRESENT "FINAL REPORT" CONCERNING UNESCO'S HUMAN RIGHTS PROCEDURES TO NEXT SESSION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD (APRIL-MAY 1978) AND WHOSE FAILURE COULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE UNESCO'S EFFORTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD;

(D) STRESS IMPORTANCE OF ALL MEMBERS OF WP PLAYING STRONG, ACTIVE ROLE IN JANUARY MEETING;

(E) RECALL THAT ENABLING RESOLUTION ASKS WP TO PROCEED BY CONSENSUS "WHEREVER POSSIBLE." SOVIETS CLEARLY HAVE FAILED TO UNDERSTAND THIS AS AN EXHORTATION TO COMPROMISE; INSTEAD THEY HAVE USED CONSENSUS PROCEDURE AS A LICENSE TO THWART THE WP'S WORK AND BLOCK PROGRESS. WP IS THUS JUSTIFIED TO PROCEED TO TAKE DECISIONS BY VOTE; AND,

(F) INDICATE THAT WE ARE PREPARED, AS FINAL RESORT AND IF AGREEMENT IS NOT POSSIBLE, TO INSIST ON SENDING A FULL AND OBJECTIVE REPORT TO EXECUTIVE BOARD NEXT SPRING, SETTING FORTH ALL MAJOR POSITIONS ON ALL MAJOR ISSUES SO THAT BOARD WILL AT LEAST HAVE ADEQUATE INFORMATION ON WHICH TO TAKE DECISIONS.

6. U.S. EXPECTS TO BE REPRESENTED AT WP MEETING BY HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT, PROFESSOR THOMAS BUERGENTHAL (UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, AUSTIN), AND DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UNESCO CONSTANTINE WARVARIV, IN LIEU OF U.S. BOARD MEMBER HENRY KERRY. BUERGENTHAL AND WARVARIV WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS' REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO AND DURING WP MEETING IN ORDER TO EXCHANGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VIEWS AND FACILITATE HELPFUL COLLABORATION.

7. POSTS SHOULD REPORT RESULTS OF REPRESENTATIONS BY PRIORITY CABLE, WITH INFO TO PARIS (NESCO) AS WELL AS ALL OTHER ADDRESSEE POSTS.

8. FOR JAKARTA: DUE TIME RELATIVE TO PRISONER RELEASE, EMBASSY SHOULD USE ITS DISCRETION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TO MAKE REPRESENTATION REQUESTED, INFORMING DEPT OF DECISION AND RATIONALE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009